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MAY 17 1965

CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Statistical Reporting Service, U. S. D. A. Washington, D. C.

SS-269

April 27, 1965

## Stocks on Farms. . . April 1

Corn stocks on farms estimated at 1.9 billion bushels, were 17 percent less than April 1, 1964 and 5 percent below average.

Wheat stocks on farms, estimated at 264 million bushels, were up 72 percent from a year earlier and 15 percent above average.

Oat stocks on farms are estimated at 403 million bushels, down 10 percent from last year and 14 percent below average.

Barley farm stocks totaled 107 million bushels, 19 percent below last year and 15 percent below average.

Rye stocks on farms, at 9.4 million bushels, were nearly three times the low 1964 stocks and more than one-third above average.

Flaxseed stocks on farms are 6.5 million bushels, 15 percent below last year and 7 percent below average.

Soybean farm stocks, estimated at 98 million bushels, were down 49 percent from a year earlier and 24 percent below average.

Sorghum stocks totaled 99 million bushels, down 11 percent from April 1, 1964 and 1 percent below average.

Milk production: About 11 billion pounds were produced in March, slightly more than March 1964 and 3 percent above average for the month.

Egg production: Nearly 5.7 billion eggs were produced in March, 1 percent less than March 1964 and average.

Winter Wheat Prospects Up,  
Other Grains Favorable

According to the Crop Reporting Board, 1965 winter wheat production was expected to total 1,037 million bushels as of April 1--1 percent more than last year and 7 percent above average. The estimated yield per seeded acre of 23.0 bushels compares with 23.7 last year and the 1959-63 average of 22.9 bushels.

Winter grains were either snow covered or dormant in the Northern Plains areas during March. The condition of the crop is questionable until spring growth starts because the crop entered the winter with limited fall growth. Fall

seeded grains had an average winter in Kansas; central and eastern areas have had adequate moisture, but dry counties near Colorado need rain. Eastern Colorado and the Panhandles of Oklahoma and Texas received only limited moisture in March. Wheat has been able to hang on. Winds were generally lighter than usual and the dry soils blew less than anticipated. Outside of the dry Western areas, Oklahoma and Texas wheat prospects are promising. Winter barley and oats suffered more losses than wheat and sizeable acreage losses are expected.

In the Corn Belt, wheat had not started to grow by April 1 except in southern areas. Improved moisture conditions offer good prospects with the coming of warm weather. Small grains came through in good shape in the South Central and South Atlantic areas. Growth has been about normal but wet soils have hampered topdressing. Grain crops are in need of moisture in the Pacific Northwest to improve stooling and strengthen the stands. An exceptionally large acreage has been reworked and reseeded in areas eroded by winter floods.

## Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Farm Gate Prices		Effective Parity Prices
	February 1965	March 1965	For March 1965
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)..... ct.	27.62	28.65	41.40
Wheat (bu.)..... dol.	1.37	1.36	2.53
Rice (100 lb.) ..... dol.	5.11	5.23	6.52
Corn (bu.)..... dol.	1.17	1.18	1.55
Peanuts (lb.) ..... ct.	12.0	11.6	14.3
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.) ..... ct.	58.7	58.6	79.2
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.29	4.15	5.53
Wool (lb.)..... ct.	2 47.8	2 47.7	82.0
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.) ..... dol.	.980	.968	1.23
Cottonseed (ton)..... dol.	48.20	47.70	62.30
Flaxseed (bu.) ..... dol.	2.92	2.89	3.82
Hay, baled (ton)..... dol.	25.70	25.70	--
Oats (bu.) ..... dol.	.659	.660	.843
Potatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	4.11	4.19	2.56
Rye (bu.)..... dol.	.961	.955	1.38
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.)..... dol.	1.95	1.93	2.44
Soybeans (bu.)..... dol.	2.81	2.85	3.01
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.) ..... dol.	6.25	6.63	5.98
Oranges, on tree (box) ..... dol.	2.77	2.35	3.50
Apples, for fresh use (bu.)... dol.	2.54	2.71	3.17
Beef cattle (100 lb.)..... dol.	18.20	18.60	25.40
Calves (100 lb.) ..... dol.	20.60	20.50	29.20
Hogs (100 lb.)..... dol.	16.40	16.30	21.20
Lambs (100 lb.)..... dol.	21.60	22.30	25.20
Chickens, all (lb.) ..... ct.	14.3	15.0	22.0
Eggs (dozen) ..... ct.	30.6	30.7	47.4

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary    <sup>2</sup> Does not include incentive payment



## Farm Stocks: Food Grains Up, Feed and Oilseeds Down

Total tonnage of the four feed grains stored on farms April 1 was 16 percent less than a year earlier and 7 percent below average. Corn declined 17 percent and sorghum 11 percent from the record high farm holdings of a year earlier.

Farm stocks of food grains were 74 percent more than last year and 15 percent above average. Stocks of all wheat on farms were 72 percent larger because of increases in both durum and other wheat. Rye stocks were nearly three times last year's low level. Oilseed stocks on farms were down sharply mostly because of a 49 percent drop in soybeans and 15 percent in flaxseed.

### Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1964					1965
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) <sup>1</sup> ..	64.5	65.6	65.3	65.7	66.2	
Farm employment .....	5.3	6.1	4.0	4.3	4.7	
Family .....	4.2	4.5	3.3	3.5	3.7	
Hired .....	1.1	1.6	.7	.8	1.0	
Index number (1957-59 = 100)						
Industrial production <sup>2</sup> .....	129	132	138	139	140	
Total personal income payments <sup>3</sup> .....	132	135	140	140	141	
Weekly factory earnings <sup>4</sup> .....	120	125	129	130	132	
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker <sup>4</sup> .....	120	122	126	126	128	
Wholesale prices, all commodities <sup>4</sup> .....	100	100	101	101	101	
Farm commodities .....	95	94	93	94	96	
Food, processed .....	100	101	102	102	102	
Consumer price index <sup>4</sup> .....	108	108	109	109	-	
Food .....	106	106	107	107	-	
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)						
Prices received by farmers .....	239	236	236	238	239	
Crops .....	241	237	233	235	237	
Food grains .....	215	190	168	167	166	
Feed grains and hay .....	166	166	174	176	177	
Cotton .....	259	260	233	233	242	
Tobacco .....	490	490	485	495	495	
Oil bearing crops .....	260	256	275	281	282	
Fruit .....	293	295	271	260	245	
Commercial vegetables .....	275	245	226	239	267	
Livestock and products .....	237	235	238	240	241	
Meat animals .....	273	269	272	280	283	
Dairy products .....	253	256	269	262	255	
Poultry and eggs .....	144	142	136	137	139	
Prices paid by farmers .....						
All commodities .....	283	282	285	286	286	
Used in living .....	299	300	303	304	303	
Used in production .....	272	270	272	273	273	
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index) .....	313	313	317	318	318	
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted .....	673	693	708	708	708	
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index) .....	76	75	74	75	75	

## Fruit Prospects Good

Prospects for the southern peach crop are up sharply from last year's freeze-damaged crop. Cold weather during March delayed blooming and minimized losses. Except for the Pacific Northwest, other fruit areas have gone through the winter without serious losses, although in the midwestern States a late March freeze caused some damage to early fruit buds. In the Pacific Northwest warm temperatures early in March caused early bud development. As a result, fruit was heavily damaged by subfreezing temperatures on March 17th and 25th. Heaviest losses occurred in cherries, peaches, and apricots. Bartlett pears in the Yakima Valley also were damaged. Washington apricots, cherries, and peaches had already been seriously damaged by a December cold spell. California's almonds, avocados, apricots, peaches, nectarines, pears, and plums bloomed during March. Almond trees were past full bloom, and cherries in or past full bloom, by April 1.

## Citrus Up 21 Percent From Last Year

Total production of citrus for 1964-65 is expected to be 21 percent greater than last year. The indicated orange crop is 28 percent and the grapefruit crop 17 percent larger, but production of lemons is down 22 percent. By April 1 growers had picked 59 percent of the oranges and 77 percent of the grapefruit, leaving about 48 million boxes of oranges and over 9 million boxes of grapefruit to be harvested. A year ago 42 million boxes of oranges and over 7 million boxes of grapefruit were harvested after April 1.

### Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Feb. 1964	Jan.-Feb. 1965
Dairy Production			
Milk .....	Bil. lb.	<sup>1</sup> 31.2	<sup>1</sup> 31.3
Evaporated whole milk .....	Mil. lb.	281.8	241.5
Dry Nonfat milk solids (for human food) .....	Mil. lb.	357.9	368.2
Butter, creamery .....	Mil. lb.	252.3	253.2
Cheese, American .....	Mil. lb.	163.9	169.6
Ice Cream .....	Mil. gal.	99.0	99.4
Poultry Production			
Eggs .....	Billions	<sup>1</sup> 16.3	<sup>1</sup> 16.3
Federally inspected slaughter <sup>2</sup> .....			
Chickens .....	Mil. lb.	803.3	824.1
Turkeys .....	Mil. lb.	44.7	44.9
Poultry used for further processing .....	Mil. lb.	99.7	109.6
Liquid egg .....	Mil. lb.	73.5	97.9
Dried egg (egg solids) .....	Mil. lb.	4.8	7.4
Frozen egg .....	Mil. lb.	46.1	54.5
Meat Production (dressed weight) <sup>3</sup>			
Beef .....	Mil. lb.	2,810	2,901
Veal .....	Mil. lb.	139	148
Pork .....	Mil. lb.	2,133	1,887
Lamb and mutton .....	Mil. lb.	126	106
Total red meat .....	Mil. lb.	5,208	5,042

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of the Census. <sup>2</sup> Federal Reserve Board. <sup>3</sup> Department of Commerce. <sup>4</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics - any figures not available at press time omitted.

<sup>1</sup> January-March. <sup>2</sup> Ready-to-cook. <sup>3</sup> Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

## More Potatoes - Less Vegetable Production

Spring potato production is expected to be larger than last year with sharp acreage increases--14 percent above last year to 4,782,000 hundredweight--more than offsetting lower yield prospects for the early spring crop. Late spring acreage is expected to be one-fourth larger than in 1964.

Indicated production of early spring vegetables is 7 percent less than both last year and average. Declines are indicated for most spring vegetables except sweet corn.

## Crop Progress Behind Schedule

Winter hung on across the northern half of the Nation during March. Snow cover in the North Central Region extended as far south as mid-Iowa at the end of the month. Seed bed preparations got off to a good start last fall, but the usual spring operations are behind schedule. Seeding of oats was just getting under way in southern Illinois and Indiana. In Kansas only 15 percent of the intended acreage of spring oats was seeded compared to the usual 60 percent, causing some concern. However, with modern equipment farmers can catch up rapidly when the weather breaks.

Crop work is about at a normal pace in Texas, but wet soils from eastern Texas to the Atlantic have hampered field work. Gulf Coastal areas dried out late in the month and farmers were able to start spring planting. Tobacco beds have made good growth but transplanting has lagged. In the Pacific Northwest, the first half of March was sunny and farmers made good progress until interrupted by cold and snow in late March. Cool weather delayed farming operations in the Southwest but March rains improved the outlook for the season. Irrigation water supplies are good in central and northern Mountain areas, but additional moisture from spring and summer rains will be needed in the Southwestern areas.

## Pastures Develop Slowly

Reported pasture condition for the Nation on April 1 was 76 percent of normal. This was 1 point below last year and 6 points less than

average. The open fall in 1964 permitted livestock to graze pasture crops closely. Cold weather in March and limited moisture in some areas held back the early spring recover. Wheat pastures furnished some forage in March, but supplemental feeding has continued in most areas. Warmer weather improved range prospects in Northern Plains and Mountain areas, but Southern areas are dependent on spring rains.

Livestock are in generally good condition in all areas of the Nation. Hay and roughage short-

## Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, by States, February 1965<sup>1</sup>

State	Livestock and Products	Crops	Total
<b>NORTH ATLANTIC REGION</b>	<i>1,000 dol.</i>	<i>1,000 dol.</i>	<i>1,000 dol.</i>
Maine .....	10,019	19,954	29,973
New Hampshire .....	3,282	891	4,173
Vermont .....	9,214	1,087	10,301
Massachusetts .....	7,831	4,611	12,442
Rhode Island .....	944	445	1,389
Connecticut .....	7,352	4,766	12,118
New York .....	51,833	20,665	72,498
New Jersey .....	9,797	3,684	13,481
Pennsylvania .....	46,177	14,928	61,105
<b>NORTH CENTRAL REGION</b>			
Ohio .....	50,667	26,159	76,826
Indiana .....	56,562	36,538	93,100
Illinois .....	84,978	94,038	179,016
Michigan .....	32,061	21,030	53,091
Wisconsin .....	89,148	11,022	100,170
Minnesota .....	90,068	32,221	122,289
Iowa .....	160,363	68,268	228,631
Missouri .....	48,045	12,392	60,437
North Dakota .....	11,186	24,601	35,787
South Dakota .....	35,596	8,148	43,744
Nebraska .....	61,571	38,792	100,363
Kansas .....	58,833	10,716	69,549
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>			
Delaware .....	5,798	1,297	7,095
Maryland .....	15,173	3,650	18,823
Virginia .....	16,827	6,773	23,600
West Virginia .....	4,416	1,589	6,005
North Carolina .....	25,922	8,660	34,582
South Carolina .....	8,114	8,695	16,809
Georgia .....	35,566	9,926	45,492
Florida .....	17,862	98,785	116,647
Kentucky .....	19,101	7,777	26,878
Tennessee .....	18,286	11,990	30,276
Alabama .....	26,512	5,755	32,267
Mississippi .....	21,959	23,659	45,618
Arkansas .....	22,381	20,757	43,138
Louisiana .....	12,508	6,241	18,749
Oklahoma .....	23,557	5,927	29,484
Texas .....	75,770	23,808	99,578
<b>WESTERN REGION</b>			
Montana .....	7,792	9,681	17,473
Idaho .....	15,312	18,589	33,901
Wyoming .....	3,956	1,630	5,586
Colorado .....	37,012	11,708	48,720
New Mexico .....	5,167	3,126	8,293
Arizona .....	12,949	10,930	23,879
Utah .....	7,669	2,278	9,947
Nevada .....	2,144	664	2,808
Washington .....	16,706	16,894	33,600
Oregon .....	12,143	10,901	23,044
California .....	98,988	77,633	176,621
<b>UNITED STATES</b>			
United States, Jan.-Dec .....	1,495,117	864,279	2,359,396
Same Period, year ago .....	1,483,923	870,530	2,354,453

## Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's  
Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-Food Products

Year and Month	Retail Cost <sup>1</sup>	Farm Value <sup>2</sup>	Farm-Retail Spread	Farmer's Share
1964 average .....	\$1,015	\$373	\$642	37%
1964 December .....	1,019	375	644	37%
1965 January .....	1,015	378	637	37%
1965 February .....	1,013	381	632	38%

<sup>1</sup> Retail cost of average quantities purchased per household in 1960-61 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families and single workers living alone, calculated from retail prices collected by the Bur. Labor Statistics. <sup>2</sup> Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

<sup>1</sup> All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.



## Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States<sup>1</sup>

Item	February 1965	March 1965
<b>CASH RECEIPTS</b>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans <sup>2</sup> .....	2,359	2,500
Livestock and products .....	1,495	1,700
Meat animals.....	826	
Dairy products .....	408	
Poultry and eggs .....	226	
Other.....	35	
Crops .....	864	800
Food grains.....	65	
Feed crops.....	278	
Cotton (lint and seed).....	51	
Oil-bearing crops.....	108	
Tobacco.....	16	
Vegetables .....	153	
Fruits and tree nuts .....	104	
Other.....	89	
Government payments .....	137	
Grand total .....	2,496	
<b>VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:</b>	1957-59	100
All commodities.....	87	90
Livestock and products.....	102	120
Crops .....	66	49

<sup>1</sup> For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

<sup>2</sup> Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

ages are reported locally but are not widespread despite extended supplemental feeding. Cold and wet weather has required more care of young animals to prevent heavy losses. Mud and cold, stormy weather lowered March gains in feed lots.

### March Milk Production Estimate 3 Percent Above Average

Milk production in the United States during March, estimated at 11,155 million pounds, is one-half percent above a year earlier and 3 percent more than the 1959-63 average for the month. On a daily average basis, production

increased 3 percent from February to March this year compared with a seasonal increase of 4 percent a year earlier. Milk production amounted to 1.85 pounds per person daily compared with 1.87 pounds in March 1964. Output per cow averaged 706 pounds in March, 3 percent above a year earlier and 14 percent more than the 1959-63 average for the month.

On April 1 the reported rate of grain and concentrates fed per milk cow averaged 9.9 pounds, 5 percent more than a year earlier.

### Fewer Hired Farm Workers in March than 1964

The number of hired workers in the March survey week totaled 971,000 or 10 percent less than in March 1964. With the prevailing seasonal field conditions, labor shortages were minimized even for specialty crops. In California, some rainy and cool weather in the principal asparagus area slowed growth and aided in the orderly harvest of fresh asparagus by a force of domestic farm workers considerably less numerous than required during the comparable period last year. Citrus harvest made good progress in California and Florida, and harvest of Florida sugarcane was completed.

### More Pullets Placed for Broiler Hatcheries

Domestic placements of pullet chicks for broiler hatchery supply flocks by leading primary breeders totaled 3,413,000 during March 1965. This was 1 percent more than domestic placements of 3,381,000 in March 1964. Total placements (domestic plus export) were reported at 3,933,000 compared to 3,742,000 a year earlier. Domestic placements of pullet chicks by leading primary breeders for January through March 1965 totaled 8,241,000, 5 percent more than during the same period of 1964.

William T. Schanger, Editor